Montana
State
Library

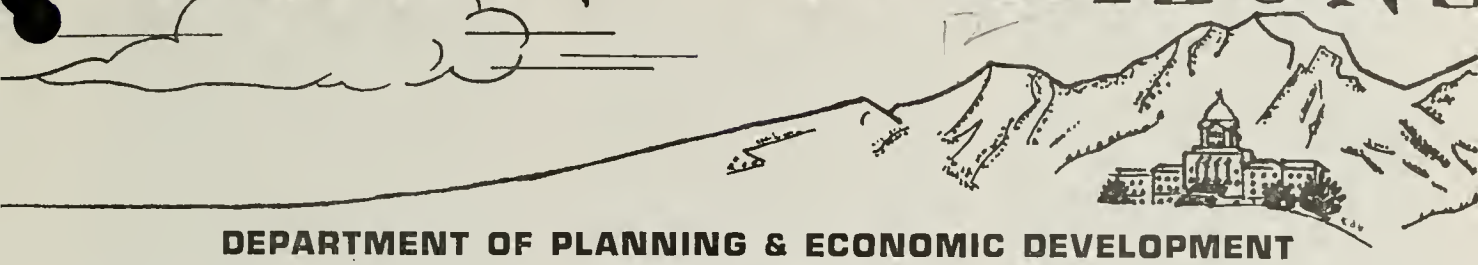
This cover sheet created by Internet Archive for formatting.

S
330.5
P4M

3 0864 1004 4321 0

NOV 1 3 '68

MONTANA HORIZONS



DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

OCTOBER, 1968

Special Project and Regional Planning

By Gary Johnson, Assistant State Planner

Montana is a unique state. It is similar in some ways to many states, but in essence, Montana is different than any other state in the Union. Montana's people, history, economy, and politics are elements which portray a view of this state alone. These elements, along with many others, are spatially distributed within the state in a pattern which is dictated both by man and land on which he lives.

Just as there are differences within the nation, there are also geographic, economic, political, social, and regional differences in Montana. My job with the Department of Planning and Economic Development deals with these elements from the view of a planner whose outlook is that of a geographer. In this context, my work involves regional planning for a particular area, and special project planning for a particular problem or objective.

The difference between special project planning and regional planning is a matter of emphasis and definition. Special project planning, for example, may involve planning for a particular recreation activitiy which is growing in participation. In regional planning, the emphasis is placed on the area. This type of planning may or may not be comprehensive, but the planning and research would be limited to a specific region with definable boundaries. Regional planning, for example, may consider the problems which would be common to a particular watershed, or it could involve transportation planning for an economic region using statistical criteria for the boundaries of the region.

Regional and special project planning take place on a continuing basis, and new special projects are given attention as the need arises. Under constant study, for example, are statewide city and county population gains and declines. Also, regional economic studies have importance on a continuing basis. Finally, interregional, interstate, and even international relationships deserve attention, and the end result is a clearer understanding of the factors which are needed for good planning.

Next Issue—A report will be given concerning the Buffalo Creek Planning Area Study—a special planning project of the Division of Planning in cooperation with the State Council of Natural Resources.

Former Director Now Consultant

Perry Roys, who was the first director of the Planning Board, is now back in the service of Montana, at least on a part-time basis.

Action of the Commission in their regular session, Sept. 24, authorized a contractual arrangement with Roys to serve as consultant for up to 3 days per month. He will continue to reside in Buffalo, New York, where he is vice president of the Greater Buffalo Development Foundation, and a professor of economics at the State University.

The experience of the former Montanan, his knowledge of economic development and urban planning and development, and his desire to be of service to his home state, should be beneficial to the department.

As required, Roys will travel to Montana, for consultation with the commission.

Roys is a Montana State University graduate, and received his masters degree in Business Administration from the University of Michigan.

SIRCO Expands

SIRCO Manufacturing Co., Missoula, has increased its plant size to 30,000 square feet recently with the addition of a new building.

Located at 1919 North Avenue West, the industry is a third larger than before, and presently employs 30 workers. By the end of this month, they expect to increase that number to 50, with an ultimate goal of 80 by October of 1969.

Glendive to Kalispell-- Havre to Billings

and points in between . . . .

are the areas covered by the modern day Montana "Circuit Rider".

The title "Circuit Rider" is the heading given to Montana H.U.D. Project P. 32. Jack Newsome and Paul Carr are assigned to this project as fieldmen under the direction of Arthur H. Hartenberger, Director of the Planning Division. This is a statewide assistance program designed to help interested communities establish, organize, and implement the planning functions so vitally needed in this state.

In establishing a local planning agency, they must first orient local leaders and communities as to the needs and functions of planning. Next, a city-county or similar planning board is set up. After this is done, the local community and the Department of Planning and Economic Development can proceed to apply for Federal H.U.D. 701 matching funds. These funds are usually on a one-third community—two-thirds H.U.D. basis. A consultant is then selected. Then the scope of services are outlined and planning starts to show results in the form of a Comprehensive Plan.

It must be remembered that a plan is only a "Paper Plan" until it is implemented. This is where a second or third phase comes into effect. Once the Comprehensive Plan is complete, a community can develop and proceed in an orderly and meaningful direction.

The basic thing to remember in community planning is that it must start from the local level. These are the people who will live with their planning. It is their planning and its results that will lead to a better overall state plan where Montana will be the kind of state its citizens want it to be.

The Circuit Rider is involved in the planning process of various projects as a state-community-federal coordinator. It is his function to work with the local communities.

(Continued on page 4)

MONTANA 1990

By Arthur H. Hartenberger, Director, Planning Division

Speech Delivered to Association of Montana Planning Boards, September 27, 1968

In terms of population distribution, Montana is no longer a rural state. Montana now has a greater number of her 720,000 people living in the towns and cities, thus making her urban in nature. Certainly, the projected 1½ million inhabitants of Montana in 1990 will crowd even more into the state's urban areas. The cities will continue to grow, the farms and ranches are going to get larger, even though there will probably be fewer of them. But what about the small Montana rural community? Are we going to write this one off? Is there no place in Montana 1990 for the small county town? The time is ripe for us to not only worry about how the thousands of new residents of Great Falls and Billings are going to live, work, and play, but also to concern ourselves about the better life for rural Montana.

Already we know, or have in sight the possibility of knowing, how to solve most of our urban and rural problems that presently surround us in Montana. The important thing is that we must be given the opportunity to try and solve not only these present problems but also the ones that we know will be with us in Montana 1990. The planner, if he is to do the job, needs tools. Planning commissioners, if they are to make the correct decisions, need the benefits from the planner's tools.

If present trends continue, it is believed that by the year 1990 most of the world's people may well be huddled up together in urban areas. However, there is a ray of hope. Recent U. S. conservation progress reports show that during 1967, some 1,715,000 acres of land and water were acquired for permanent public use in forest, park, open space, fish and game, and multi-purpose reservoir areas, compared with about 750,000 acres converted to urban and highway development. This marks the third consecutive year that more undeveloped land has been set aside for conservation than for development. This is indeed encouraging for the conservation-minded "Montana Planner".

We are told that: 25% of all the people who ever lived are alive today; 90% of all the scientists who ever lived are living now; the amount of technical information available doubles every ten years; throughout the world, about 100,000 journals are published in more than 60 languages, and the number doubles every 15 years.

For the most part, it appears that "future potential developments" will be determined by the interplay between two numbers. One is very simple. The total surface area of the earth and the natural resources it contains. It is a fixed number. It will never get any larger. The other number is the world's population. This is a number that will continue to grow, at least for the next 20 years or through 1990.

Every twelve seconds there is a net population gain of one person in the United States—a net gain of 300,000 persons throughout the world, every single day—or nearly one-half of the total population of the state of Montana is added to the world population every 24 hours.

If the world of the next 20 years is, as we have said, largely to be determined by the interplay between numbers — numbers of people and numbers of resources — and if, as we have indicated, nothing can be done about the first, it seems reasonable to examine the second.

We will talk here about numbers as they directly concern the United States and indirectly as they concern the state of Montana. If, with our technology, our untapped resources, our still enormous unused land areas, the vitality of our people, and the investment capital we have, the land-population problem cannot be solved, then it seems there is nowhere that it can be solved.

The number we will consider is 1,904,000,000—the extent of land acreage of the continental United States —excluding Alaska. It is interesting that once we have that figure, there is not much we can do with it.

It is a strange and perhaps a concerned fact that as late as 1963, of the total land area of the United States, only 65 percent had been topographically mapped as to land features, and only 20 percent had been mapped geographically as to the kind of land it is.

Since the turn of the century, the land of the United States, and especially the land of Montana, has been used much the same way. Nobody planned it that way. There has always been such an abundance of land of one sort or another that planning seemed unnecessary. Today it may be reasonable, if not widely acceptable, that we consider planning land resources for the maximum benefit.

The amount of land given to urban use in the United States, and throughout most of the world, is a tiny fraction of the whole. As William Wheaton, director of the University of California, Institute for Urban and Regional Development, said in 1966: "Only about 30,000 square miles of the 3 million-square-mile area of the Nation are now devoted to urban use. man's horizon has been so limited, both by terrain and the curative of the earth, that he could not see himself as a major force at work upon his environment. What his limited vision has brought us has been, all too often, disastrous.

Donald John Hall, writing in the Sierra Club Bulletin, December 1965, said "none but the Indian have ever lived in this country, and they existed only as part of it. They have never atempted to assert themselves, but have grown up like trees. It is their food, their drink, their religion, and their life . . . they pass through it silently, leaving as little trace as sunlight through wind."

Could we not, if we tried, do as well?

It seems appropriate nowadays for people to have a "Cause"—the ones we read or hear about most are usually for civil rights, academic freedom, make love-not war, and so on. Ever since I arrived in Montana I too have developed a "Cause" — and that cause is "Montana". This Cause of mine is not just because I'm a state employee or civil servant and get paid for caring about the state . . . it goes much deeper than that. I've found a "home", a place of personal identity.

Being a product of the uncontrolled and relatively un-planned urban environment of southern California, I feel that I am well qualified to speak on what should not be done, or even better, what should not happen to Montana. For this reason I have adopted my "Montana Cause". I'm concerned about the preservation of a kind of Montana that many of you here this afternoon have been privileged to experience much longer than I.

My "Montana Cause" concerns itself with the unsurpassed beauty, the spaciousness, the mountains, lakes, and rivers, the wheat fields, the towns and cities, and even yes, the clean unpolluted big sky . . . the cause goes and says "Let's not destroy all of this —let's not lose what so many states have already lost, Let's preserve it!" But let us also realize that in order to protect it we must act. We must educate, we must make aware our This is only about one percent of the land area . . . A population of 350 million could readily be accommodated in our present urban area with no more discomfort than is now suffered by millions of the good folks of Boston or Los Angeles or Cleve-

land or Chicago."

There is at least one problem that may be of concern in the allocation of acreage to urban use. It is a problem with which, indeed, Montana must soon reckon. This allocation often is at the expense of the high-yield agricultural land. In the Gallatin Valley this high-value agricultural loss has been demonstrated in the past few years. How much longer are we going to sit passively by and watch this sort of thing happen? Are the people of Montana going to write off this extremely high-value agricultural area to unplanned and uncontrolled urban expansion?

Once Agricultural land has been urbanized—once the parking lot, freeway, housing tract, or supermarket makes it entrance—it not only loses its high-yield productivity, but it cannot be restored to agricultural use again.

One of the reasons our unplanned use of land has been so destructive in this country (witness the dust bowl eras of 1830 and 1930) is that concern—we must gain support—we must plan; we must be ready and willing to control the growth and environment so as to enable the preservation of this unique and hospitable state.

In order for us to act and to accomplish—we need those tools again, specific legislation tools.

In a large part, effective planning legislation is the necessary planning tool. We are confronted with an immense variety of problems both in urban and rural Montana. Effective problem solving will depend upon the level of legislation that we are given to use.

For several thousand years the people of the world have been moving toward urban areas. This trek has become greatly accelerated in recent years. It was not until about 200 years ago that a city of a million people existed on earth. Today a city of a million may be considered relatively small. Within the easily forseeable future, "at present rates of increase, city populations could multiply perhaps 40 times within the next 100 years", says the Center for Population Studies at Harvard University.

Within the next twenty years, if present trends continue, about three-fourths of all the world's people will live in **three** metropolitan areas by 1990.

People move to the city from the country to change their way of life. They may, if successful, eventually move to the suburbs hoping to preserve their new way of life. The towns and cities of Montana must be ready to meet this challenge if they are to overcome the past mistakes of so many other American cities. I think we all know what these mistakes are.

One thing that's wrong with America, in the opinion of some competent observers, is the maldistribution of the people.

Too many people are crowded into big cities, where they breathe polluted air, pay high prices for everything they buy, fray their nerves in a daily battle with traffic congestion, and generally get in each other's way.

Too few people live in small towns and open countryside, where air is clean, prices are more reasonable, traffic is light and neighbors are generally friendlier.

The imbalance is strikingly demonstrated by a single statistic: **nearly 70 percent of the American people now live in metropolitan areas comprising one percent of the total land.**

This concentration of popuplation has resulted from the most massive migration the world has ever known. Since the end of World War II, more than 20 million Americans have abandoned the countryside to take up residence in the cities.

Many of the urgent problems now besetting urban areas are directly attributable to the heavy waves of immigration from the countryside which have swamped their schools, overcrowded their cheaper residential areas, exhausted their employment opportunities, and multiplied their welfare budgets.

Secretary of Agriculture Orville Freeman recently said, "this nation can never really solve the congestion, crime, poverty, unemployment, and soaring welfare costs of the cities so long as the countryside continues to pour in a flood of ill-trained and poorly educated rural dropouts. Cities will be among the principal beneficiaries of efforts to revitalize the town and country economy with new industry."

The simple fact remains that there just isn't any building or industry as beautiful, or as appropriate, as the bit of forest it replaces.

But it is important here to remember that Montana towns and country will benefit only when they are prepared to take on their civic responsibility of this anticipated new industory. I think it's important for Montana cities and towns to be "selective" in the determination of this new industry—be selective in terms of acquiring those industries which are both needed and, more important, desired.

Montana 1990 should have new and diversified economic growth and it's important that this growth be selectively planned and universally accepted.

Gulf Comes to Montana

Gulf Oil Co. is becoming more noticeable in Montana. In the 2 years of their existence in the Treasure State, 10 retail outlets have opened. In addition, 2 are under construction, contracts are let for 2 more, and next year it is planned to let contracts for another 3. This means that by next summer there will be 17 company-owned, leased service stations.

According to Ron Hagmeyer of Great Falls, Gulf Representative for the state, every time the company builds a new outlet, they have created jobs for 5 men. Add to that the hauling done by Montana trucking firms, and the $125,000 to $150,000 expended on each station for land, construction, and equipment, and Gulf feels they are contributing to Montana's economy in no small measure.

Besides the retail outlets, Gulf has contracted to drill 5 wells in Blaine County this year, one of which yielded natural gas.

Hagmeyer said that Gulf is happy to be part of the "family" in Montana, and hopes to do its share in building the Treasure State.

Bourbon Bottling Big Business

One of Montana's interesting industries is located in Helena. It's known as Alpha Industries, Inc.

This firm, headed by a young man named Tom Clavin, buys Bourbon, Vodka and Gin in bulk, has it trucked in stainless steel tank trucks to Helena from the distillery, and bottles it under the name of Lewis and Clark.

In almost two years in business, Alpha Industries have found wide acceptance for their Vodka and Gin, but the Bourbon is still low on the list, but climbing.

Montana law prohibits salesmen from calling on the "trade" to sell alcoholic spirits, and the only customer in the state for Alpha's products is the State Liquor Control Board.

The name Lewis and Clark was chosen as a brand name because of the tie in with Montana. This is further emphasized in the fact that Alpha is lending their support to the Lewis and Clark Trail promotion.

Four steady administrative people are employed at the plant, but about 2 weeks out of every month when a tank is received, about 14 additional employees are added to the payroll.

As public acceptance of their products increases, they plan to add more to their staff on a regular basis.

GLENDIVE TO KALISPELL

(Continued from page 1)

A report from each Circuit Rider follows:

Paul A. Carr

Havre has been involved in the planning process for quite some time, but has had trouble getting started. At present, their application has been approved and work should start shortly.

Kalispell and their first phase plan is finished. A second phase plan has been approved and work has been started. This is leading towards implementation of the plans.

Bozeman is in the process, with the Department of Planning, of preparing a future land-use map that will enable them to qualify for an additional 10% federal grant on their water-sewer project.

At present, the Comprehensive Plan of Livingston is being reviewed. When this review is completed, it is hoped that several means of implementation will be developed.

The application for Glendive has been completed and is waiting for submission to H.U.D.

Several of the larger cities such as Billings and Helena have their own "in house" professional planners. The Department of Planning and Economic Development is working with these cities in an effort to coordinate activities. Several smaller cities have also shown interest in establishing local "in house" planning staffs.

Additional communities interested in the planning process are Terry, Red Lodge, Three Forks, Big Timber, Poplar, and West Yellowstone.

Jack Newsome

I have been assigned cities in two comprehensive areas. The first is along the western Clark Fork drainage and includes Butte, Anaconda, Deer Lodge, and Missoula.

Each of these cities has separate, distinct problems and is therefore progressing at varying rates and stages.

Most important, from a standpoint of practical necessity, is Butte. The award of a Model Cities Program is intended to augment the physical and economic demands on the landscape with studies on the social problems of relocating large urban and business areas.

Anaconda is faced with developing a comprehensive plan to incorporate industrial diversification, community appearance, and upgrading community facilities. Her long dependence upon a single income source has created a situation which is making Anaconda's City-County Planning Board a real problem solving unit.

While Deer Lodge is experiencing no distinct problems, the attitude of planning for a progressive future is a strong motivator for Deer Lodge's request for planning assistance. Such perception is noteworthy and reflects the concern of many of Montana's smaller communities.

Missoula is well along on the Phase III Program and is experiencing much satisfaction at the progress of the zoning and transportation studies' implementation. Progressive steps on coordinating activities to reduce air and water pollution are being taken. Missoula's rapid growth rate makes implementation of her programmed improvements more difficult, but they are being solved in an orderly manner, belying the need for comprehensive planning.

The second region radiates from and includes Great Falls, Lewistown, Shelby, Cut Bank, and Browning. Great Falls maintains its own in-house planning staff, and because of its size, over 50,000, applies for H.U.D. funds directly. The State Department of Planning keeps liaison ties with the Great Falls office, but does not coordinate arrangements between consultants, the city, and H.U.D.

Lewistown is the recipient of a high merit award in support of its Phase I project to broaden its scope of services section. The extra funds from this award will be used to implement the in-depth studies originally planned.

Both Shelby and Cut Bank are in the process of completing community reconnaissance reports to meet the application requirements for urban planning assistance. The leadership groups in both communities are committed to civic improvement and are enthusiastic supporters of comprehensive planning.

Browning has been involved in area planning for the past few years. Prior to the present H.U.D. program, an EDA grant to initiate surveys and studies for economic and industrial growth was undertaken. The combined City-County Planning Board and Blackfeet Tribal Council has worked hard to improve all phases of civic activity and community development. The needs of the community are being realized through federal programs and much work on the part of local citizens themselves.

Gun Factory In Kalispell

Hall Sharon of Kalispell makes rifle barrels, and employs 4 men in his company.

Negotiations with the AIM Magnum Corp. of Colorado have led to this company moving to Kalispell, where it will be operated by Sharon in connection with his present company. Sharon states that after a year it is expected the number of employees will be up to 50.

A suitable site is being selected, and it is hoped to start building this fall. Their aim is for production to start next spring, after installation this winter of equipment.

Montana Horizons

Bi-Monthly Newsletter — OCTOBER, 1968

Reports on business concerns appearing in this publication do not constitute an endorsement of either the concern named or its products. Statements in this newsletter do not reflect Board policy unless official action is reported.

State Dept. Planning and Economic Development
Capitol Post Office
Helena, Montana 59601

BULK RATE
U. S. Postage
Permit No. 83
Helena, Montana
59601

State Library
930 E. Lyndale
Helena, Mont. 59601

Montana
State
Library

This cover sheet created by Internet Archive for formatting.